

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 07795 211706Z

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ACTION CU-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 USIA-12

/034 W

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R 211332Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5602

INFO AMCONSUL KADUNA

UNCLAS LAGOS 07795

E.O. 11652 : NA

TAGS : OEXC, NI (MOHAMMED, MALLAM UTHMAN)

SUBJ : IV NOMINATION FOR MALLAM UTHMAN MOHAMMED

1. EMBASSY NOMINATES MALLAM UTHMAN MOHAMMED, CHIEF REGISTRAR HIGH COURT, SOKOTO, FOR 30-DAY IV GRANT. ALTHOUGH PROJECT NOT INCLUDED IN FY-75 PROGRAM, EMBASSY WILLING FUND FROM MONEY FREED BY TRANSFER OF SPOKANE FAIR PROJECT TO FY-74.

2. BIOGRAPHIC DATA FOLLOWS:

FULL NAME : MALLAM (MR.) UTHMAN MOHAMMED

PRESENT POSITION : CHIEF REGISTRAR, HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE, SOKOTO

PAST POSITION : CHIEF MAGISTRATE, SOKOTO

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: FEBRUARY 20, 1935; ARGUNGU (NORTHWESTERN STATE)

PRESENT CITIZENSHIP : NIGERIAN; NONE PREVIOUS

PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO US: NONE

PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO OTHER COUNTRIES : SUDAN, 1960

PREVIOUS USG GRANT : NONE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LAGOS 07795 211706Z

ESCORT SERVICES : REQUESTED

VISA ELIGIBILITY : NAMECHECK SATISFACTORY, VISA ELIGIBLE

REASONS FOR NOMINATION : UTHMAN MOHAMMED, AT 39 YEARS, RANKS
RELATIVELY HIGH IN NORTHWESTERN STATE

GOVERNMENT. HE WILL, IN ALL PROBABILITY, RISE HIGHER IN STATE'S JUDICIAL

SYSTEM AND COULD, GIVEN HIGH REGARD WHICH MOST SENIOR MEMBERS
JUDICIARY HOLD HIM, SOON BE ELEVATED TO JUSTICE. IN VIEW HIS RESPONSIBLE

AND INFLUENTIAL POSITION AS LEGAL/COMMUNITY LEADER, EMBASSY BELIEVES
US VISIT AT THIS TIME ESPECIALLY BENEFICIAL TO OUR PRESENT AND FUTURE
INTERESTS IN SECTION OF COUNTRY WHICH IN PROCESS MOLDING OWN
IMAGE/SYSTEM WITHIN OVERALL FEDERAL FRAMEWORK.

US OBJECTIVES: AS WAS CASE WITH ALFA BELGORE (CHIEF MAGISTRATE,
NORTH CENTRAL STATE--LAGOS 1830; 1973) MOHAMMED'S
VISIT/PROGRAM SHOULD EXPOSE HIM TO FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL JUDICIAL
SYSTEMS, POLICE-JUDICIAL RELATIONSHIPS, AND AMERICAN LEGAL EDUCATION.
SINCE HE HAS NEVER BEEN TO U.S., A VISIT, PARTICULARLY AT THIS TIME IN

U.S. HISTORY, SHOULD BE DESIGNED TO ENABLE HIM BETTER APPRECIATE,
ASSESS
AND INTERPRET CURRENT EVENTS AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF "AMERICAN SYSTEM".

WITH PROPER BALANCE PROFESSIONAL/CULTURAL EXPOSURE, BELIEVE MOHAMMED
UPON RETURNING NIGERIA WOULD SERVE AS EXCELLENT SPOKESMAN OUR
INTERESTS.

AVAILABILITY DATES FOR US PROGRAM: FOR 30 DAYS BEGINNING IN MID-
SEPTEMBER. MUST RETURN TO
NIGERIA BY OCTOBER 15. DUE TIME FACTOR, WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY
APPROVAL OF GRANT.

3. ALTERNATE: MR. ABIODUN ROY SOLUADE
CHIEF MAGISTRATE
JOS, BENUE PLATEAU STATE

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 LAGOS 07795 211706Z

4. FOR KADUNAC UPON APPROVAL OF GRANT, SUBMIT PART II NOMINATION
INCLUDING DETAILED PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS DIRECTLY TO
DEPARTMENT, INFO LAGOS.
STEIGMAN

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